

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 206718  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JWTTWINAM:CEL  
APPROVED BY NEA:MDRAPER  
NSC:WQUANDT  
S/S-O:SVALERGA  
NEA/ARN:NHOWELL

-----101793 152246Z /66

O 152205Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 206718

EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, SA, US

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO KING'S LETTER ON LEBANON

1. REQUEST AMBASSADOR MAKE FOLLOWING ORAL RESPONSE TO SAG  
ON LETTER WHICH IS BEING REPEATED TO YOU SEPTTEL. (FYI:  
LETTER, DATED JULY 16, WAS HANDED TO DEPARTMENT BY SAUDI  
EMBASSY EARLY AUGUST AND WE HAVE HELD UP RESPONSE IN LIGHT  
OF RAPIDLY CHANGING SITUATION IN LEBANON. END FYI.)

2. BEGIN TEXT: PRESIDENT CARTER HAS RECEIVED HIS MAJESTY'S  
LETTER OF JULY 16 ON THE SITUATION IN LEBANON AND HAS  
CONSIDERED IT CAREFULLY. THE PRESIDENT WISHES TO ASSURE  
HIS MAJESTY OF HIS DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THE TRAGIC AND  
DANGEROUS SITUATION IN LEBANON. HE SHARES HIS MAJESTY'S  
CONVICTION THAT WE MUST CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE LEGITIMATE  
AUTHORITY IN LEBANON IN ITS EFFORTS TO REBUILD THE INSTITU-

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 206718

TIONS OF THE STATE AND RESTORE STABILITY AND SECURITY  
THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. IT IS UNITED STATES POLICY TO  
CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA  
TOWARD OUR COMMON OBJECTIVE OF SECURING PEACE IN LEBANON.  
IN THIS CONNECTION IT WAS MOST BENEFICIAL TO US TO HAVE  
ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE LEBANON SITUATION WITH  
THE GOVERNMENT DURING AMBASSADOR ATHERTON'S RECENT VISIT

TO THE KINGDOM. THE USG WILL, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO WATCH

DEVELOPMENTS IN LEBANON MOST CLOSELY AND SEEK TO INFLUENCE  
THEM WHEREVER POSSIBLE TOWARD THE RESTORATION OF ORDER.  
IN THIS ENDEAVOR WE WISH TO STAY IN THE CLOSEST CONSULTA-  
TIONS AND COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA.  
END TEXT. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 206718  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

66011

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:APBURLEIGH  
APPROVED BY NEA:AKORKY  
S/S-O:RSNIDER

-----000512 180127Z /61

R 171940Z AUG 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

S E C R E T STATE 206718

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 206718 SENT ACTION JIDDA AUG 15.

QUOTE: S E C R E T STATE 206718

EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, SA, US

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO KING'S LETTER ON LEBANON

1. REQUEST AMBASSADOR MAKE FOLLOWING ORAL RESPONSE TO SAG  
ON LETTER WHICH IS BEING REPEATED TO YOU SEPTTEL. (FYI:  
LETTER, DATED JULY 16, WAS HANDED TO DEPARTMENT BY SAUDI  
EMBASSY EARLY AUGUST AND WE HAVE HELD UP RESPONSE IN LIGHT  
OF RAPIDLY CHANGING SITUATION IN LEBANON. END FYI.)

2. BEGIN TEXT: PRESIDENT CARTER HAS RECEIVED HIS MAJESTY'S  
LETTER OF JULY 16 ON THE SITUATION IN LEBANON AND HAS  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 206718

CONSIDERED IT CAREFULLY. THE PRESIDENT WISHES TO ASSURE  
HIS MAJESTY OF HIS DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THE TRAGIC AND  
DANGEROUS SITUATION IN LEBANON. HE SHARES HIS MAJESTY'S  
CONVICTION THAT WE MUST CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE LEGITIMATE  
AUTHORITY IN LEBANON IN ITS EFFORTS TO REBUILD THE INSTITU-  
TIONS OF THE STATE AND RESTORE STABILITY AND SECURITY  
THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. IT IS UNITED STATES POLICY TO  
CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA  
TOWARD OUR COMMON OBJECTIVE OF SECURING PEACE IN LEBANON.  
IN THIS CONNECTION IT WAS MOST BENEFICIAL TO US TO HAVE  
ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE LEBANON SITUATION WITH  
THE GOVERNMENT DURING AMBASSADOR ATHERTON'S RECENT VISIT  
TO THE KINGDOM. THE USG WILL, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO WATCH

DEVELOPMENTS IN LEBANON MOST CLOSELY AND SEEK TO INFLUENCE  
THEM WHEREVER POSSIBLE TOWARD THE RESTORATION OF ORDER.  
IN THIS ENDEAVOR WE WISH TO STAY IN THE CLOSEST CONSULTA-  
TIONS AND COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA.  
END TEXT. VANCE UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INSTRUCTIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, COMBAT OPERATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE206718  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JJWTWINAM:CEL  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780334-0368  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780862/aaaabzmq.tel  
**Line Count:** 143  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 9f0cf762-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 jul 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1733669  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RESPONSE TO KING'S LETTER ON LEBANON  
**TAGS:** PEPR, PPDC, MOPS, SA, US, LE, (CARTER, JIMMY), (KHALID, KING)  
**To:** JIDDA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/9f0cf762-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014